

TRIBUTE TO GARRON LAMOREAU

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to convey my deepest appreciation to a member of my Washington, D.C. staff for his tireless efforts on behalf of the good people of Oregon's 2nd Congressional District. Garron Lamoreau will soon conclude his internship and head back to Eastern Oregon University to pursue his degree in History.

Mr. Speaker, Garron has been an excellent addition to my office. He arrived in Washington, D.C. just after the New Year, and has done a great job transitioning from recess to the current congressional "March Madness." He has not only handled his intern responsibilities efficiently, but has also received outstanding reviews on the Capitol tours he has provided for constituents and drafted correspondence to help me address the needs of district residents. My staff came to rely on Garron, and they knew that he would successfully tackle any task he was given. I'm sure his strong work ethic and intellectual curiosity will serve him well in any path he chooses to pursue.

Garron hails from La Grande, Oregon, a small town in my district along the Grand Ronde River. As the son of Union County Commissioner John Lamoreau and Nena Jones, politics is in his blood. He was valedictorian of his La Grande High School class despite graduating a year early. During his prep years he was a truly well-rounded student, excelling not only in his studies, but also as an athlete, playing basketball, soccer and running track, and as a member of the state championship choir. After graduation, Garron made the wise choice to attend my alma mater, the University of Oregon, where he has maintained a 3.9 GPA. Garron is transferring to Eastern Oregon University for the coming term, and plans to tour this summer with his band, Again United, singing lead vocals and playing the guitar.

Mr. Speaker, my office has been lucky to have an intern like Garron. His calm demeanor and dry sense of humor will truly be missed around the office, but I have no doubt that he has a bright future ahead of him. Best of luck, Garron, and keep up the good work.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ANDREW SHEPARD

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute today to Mr. Andrew Shepard, a lifelong California resident and dedicated community banker.

Last fall, Andrew Shepard retired after more than 53 years with Exchange Bank and Doyle Trust in Santa Rosa, California. In 1949, he joined Exchange Bank as a teller, receiving continual promotions through years of dedication and hard work. He served as Chief Executive Officer from 1969 until 1991, presiding over tremendous growth at the Bank and in-

creasing its asset size more than 800 percent. In 1991, Mr. Shepard was named Chairman of the Board.

In addition to his duties at Exchange Bank and Doyle Trust, Mr. Shepard has been an active leader in the banking industry. He served as President of the California Bankers Association and has held many positions with the American Bankers Association, including service on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer. Mr. Shepard is also a Past Chairman of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors Advisory Board.

He has received many honors in recognition of his leadership. In 1999, he was inducted into the Pacific Coast Banking School Hall of Fame, an elite group of 18 graduates of the School. In 1999, he received the California Human Development Corporation Aztec Award. For 3 years in a row (1986, 1987, and 1988), he was recognized by his peers and awarded the CEO—A Best Managed Independent Bank in Northern California honor.

One of Mr. Shepard's proudest achievements has been the support of Santa Rosa Junior College students. Since 1969, Exchange Bank and Doyle Trust have sponsored the education of countless students with donations of approximately \$47 million in scholarship funds. In 1993, Santa Rosa Junior College recognized Mr. Shepard's dedication to the school and presented him with the President's Medallion. Mr. Shepard has also served as the Chairman of the Santa Rosa United Way, a member of the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce Economic Advisory Committee, and a founding member of the Sonoma County Community Foundation. An enthusiastic outdoorsman, he has served as the CEO of Elktrout, Inc., for more than 2 decades and is the Past Chairman of the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

Any tribute to Mr. Shepard would be incomplete without mentioning his service to our country. During World War II, Mr. Shepard enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with the 100th Infantry Division from 1943 to 1946. As a First Mortar Gunner, he saw combat in Europe and was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Upon his discharge, Mr. Shepard began his education at Stanford University, receiving a B.A. with Distinction in Economics in 1949. Later he graduated from the Pacific Coast Banking School and the Advanced Management College at Stanford University.

Throughout his career, Andrew Shepard has been a dedicated advocate for his company, the banking industry at large, and his community. I thank him for his service, and send my best wishes on a wonderful retirement to him and his lovely wife, Mardi.

STANDING UP FOR OUR VETERANS

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shed light on an attack committed under cover of darkness and to praise our heroes who turned back that assault.

I am speaking of the dishonorable conduct of the members of this House, which at 3 o'clock in the morning on March 21 voted for

devastating cuts to the Department of Veterans Affairs—totaling \$14 billion over 10 years—including cutting health care and compensation for disabled veterans. Under ordinary circumstances, this would simply be the wrong thing to do. But to cut this funding while hundreds of thousands of our soldiers—soon to be war veterans—are thousands of miles away fighting for our freedom, is hypocritical in the extreme and displays a shocking lack of gratitude for the sacrifice and selflessness of our troops.

I am proud to support our veterans. And I believe that in war and peace, we must show veterans the utmost respect. Many people come to this floor and say they respect our veterans and say that our veterans are their priority. However, I believe that a priority is only a priority when it is adequately funded. In other words, we need to put our money where our mouth is and give veterans the resources they need. It is particularly offensive that we are not giving veterans what they need and deserve in order to fund hundreds of billions of dollars of tax cuts which will disproportionately benefit the already very wealthy.

This assault on our veterans did not escape the notice of the vigilant veterans' watchdog groups. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Disabled American Veterans were outspoken in their opposition. I was particularly struck by the words of Edward R. Heath, Sr., National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans, who said:

Cutting already under funded veterans' programs to offset the costs of tax cuts is indefensible and callous. It is unconscionable to cut benefits and services for disabled veterans at a time when we have thousands of our service members in harm's way fighting terrorism around the world and when we are sending thousands more of our sons and daughters to fight a war against Iraq.

Fortunately, thanks to the forceful opposition of veterans' groups and pressure from congressional advocates in Congress, I am optimistic we may not only prevent cuts to veterans programs, but possibly even increase funding. The Chairman of the House Budget Committee has reversed course and stated that he will follow the lead of the Senate, which has approved increases for veterans.

While I am encouraged by this change of heart, until the Chairman's words are enacted into law, it is vital that advocates for veterans remain vigilant and ensure he keeps his promise.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans are watching, and the American people are watching. Now more than ever, let's show our troops that this Nation will always support them. Let's put actions ahead of words and make funding our veterans a real priority of this Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DEBORAH A. YOW

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on March 26, 2003, Ms. Deborah A. Yow, who is currently serving in her ninth year as director of athletics at the University of Maryland, will be inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame.

The Maryland Women's Hall of Fame was established to honor Maryland women who

have made unique and lasting contributions to the economic, political, cultural and social life of the State and to provide visible models of achievement for tomorrow's female leaders. Ms. Yow's contribution to Maryland and her role as a prominent female leader in an area traditionally dominated by males more than qualifies her for this honor.

Throughout her distinguished career in collegiate athletics, Ms. Yow has been known for her unrivalled energy and dedication. She has demonstrated a long-standing commitment not only to athletic success but also to the academic excellence of the students. A focused manager, fund-raiser, and promoter, she is known as a "coach's AD" with an impressive sense of management and knowledge of fiscal operations. Over the course of her career she has emerged as a leader in all facets of collegiate athletics.

After playing basketball herself at Elon College in North Carolina, Ms. Yow excelled for nearly a decade in coaching women's basketball. She began coaching at the University of Kentucky in 1976, and in 1980, Ms. Yow moved to Oral Roberts University in Oklahoma, posting an impressive 26–1 record in 1983. She then served as the women's basketball coach at the University of Florida from 1983 to 1987. Ms. Yow retired from coaching after her tenure at the University of Florida with a winning percentage of .700 and a career average of 20 victories per season.

Ms. Yow moved her career into the administrative field by serving as an associate athletic director at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro from 1987 to 1990, where she increased alumni support by more than 128 percent. In 1990, Ms. Yow assumed the position of athletic director at St. Louis University, becoming the fourth female athletic director of an NCAA Division I program and the only one active at the time. She was credited with revitalizing the men's basketball program and achieved an impressive 92 percent graduate rate for its athletes, ranking 10th among the 300 Division I schools.

In 1994, Ms. Yow began her new role as athletic director at the University of Maryland, the first woman to hold such a position in Atlantic Coast Conference history. She was faced with the challenge of a program ranked last competitively and last in fund-raising in the ACC, and a staggering operating deficit of \$6.7 million. She took this position with a pledge to pay off the debt and improve both the athletic and academic standards in the Maryland athletic program. Under her leadership, every budget in the department has been balanced, and the debts she inherited from past administrations have been paid off. The Maryland Terrapins have streaked up the all-sports ranking to be in the top 15 percent of all NCAA Division I institutions. The graduation rate of athletes has risen to an impressive 85 percent, and improvements have been made in a variety of areas such as management, facilities and customer care.

Last year, 2002, demonstrated unprecedented successes for Ms. Yow's efforts in Maryland athletics. U.S. News and World Report selected the University of Maryland as one of the top 20 athletic programs in the Nation for overall quality and competitive excellence. The football team won the ACC championship and played in the Orange Bowl. The men's basketball team won the ACC regular season and topped that off with the NCAA na-

tional championship. These successes made Maryland one of a handful of schools to have achieved such high-level successes in both football and men's basketball in the same year. And success was not limited to just these two sports; the women's lacrosse team won their 7th consecutive national championship, the field hockey team played for the national championship, and a total of 10 teams competed in post-season play.

Ms. Yow's success has been honored by a variety of awards and leadership positions in college athletics. In 1998, she was elected the second vice president of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, the second woman to serve as an officer of the NACDA. By 2000, she was the president of that organization. Also in 2000, Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal, a leading industry publication, named her female sport executive of the year. More recently, she has been an important voice on the Commission on Opportunity in Athletics, a group assembled by U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige to review Title IX.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend congratulations to Ms. Yow for her well-deserved inauguration into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame. Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House join me in thanking Ms. Yow for her contribution to the University of Maryland, its fans and the citizens of the great State of Maryland, as well as for her wider contribution to collegiate athletics.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the attached statement of Colombian President Alvaro Uribe supporting U.S. action in Iraq.

EXCERPTS OF A TELEVISED ADDRESS TO THE COLOMBIAN NATION BY HIS EXCELLENCY ALVARO URIBE, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA ON IRAQ

The Government has openly supported the use of force in Iraq in order to disarm its regime and prevent its weapons of mass destruction from continuing to threaten mankind and the Iraqi people, who have been a victim of horrid crimes perpetrated by Iraqi authorities. The world still remembers images of the mothers of Halabja, dying while embracing their children in a last effort to protect them from the deadly effects of Saddam Hussein's poisonous gas.

This international action should protect civilians and respect the legitimate rights of the population of Iraq.

We belong to a coalition formed of countries like the United States, Spain, England, Italy, Denmark, Holland, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Bolivia. As in the case of Colombia, the people in many of these countries have suffered from terrorism and have learned, as we have, that this scourge has to be defeated by force in order for citizens to be able to live in peace.

Colombia has been requesting the world's support in its fight against terrorism and we

cannot refuse to support actions aimed at defeating terror wherever it takes place. We have demanded global solidarity to avoid the suffering brought about by terrorism and we must fight together to stop terrorism from causing havoc here and there—in the Twin Towers of New York, in the streets of Great Britain, in Spanish cities, in Bogota's Club El Nogal, in Cuouta and Neiva, in the humble town of Ricaurte just last night, or in Arauca, nearly on a daily basis.

Neither state terrorism nor terrorism by armed groups of any kind can be tolerated. Our Government is committed to the fight against terrorism until terrorist networks are dismantled. Only then will we see full compliance with human rights. The dignity of our open democracy requires this and only when it is realized will we be able to maintain international credibility, which is our defense against unilateral intervention of any kind.

We will overcome the terrorist's deceit: Terrorists in Colombia advance their agenda through illegal drugs, kidnappings, arms and technology while misleading well-intentioned analysts and seeking sinister alliances. We cannot remain in doubt, lacking determination and mistaking weakness for legality, which has prevented us from gaining effective allies against terrorism.

By participating in this alliance against terrorism, Colombia strengthens its ability to gain international allies who can help us defeat terrorism internally. We have also learned that international cooperation cannot remain solely in the realm of words, but must translate into concrete support, good offices and effective military action.

We feel for the victims of terrorism in Colombia and other countries. To demand solidarity, we must show solidarity.

LET'S COMPLETE NEW YORK'S RECOVERY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, with the Nation at war, our first thoughts today are with American servicemen and women . . . that they get home quickly and safely, and that Iraq is liberated with as little tragedy as possible.

This week the President asked Congress to authorize \$75 billion mostly to cover war operations, with reports that he will request an additional \$70 billion more to help Iraq rebuild. I am supporting these funds and understand the President's commitment to rebuild Iraq.

We are here today with a similar message about New York. Mr. President, New York's recovery is not yet complete. Billion dollar losses from the attacks remain unaddressed. Like our commitment to rebuild Iraq, we should also commit to New York's full recovery. To be sure, New York is grateful for the initial aid received.

Those funds—part of the \$16 to \$20 billion in initial federal aid—helped tremendously with the material recovery efforts, costs for overtime to rescue workers, and additional costs of the emergency response.

But the wider economic impacts of 9/11 were not small ripples, they were crushing aftershocks.

Total costs from the disaster are estimated as high as \$95 billion, with only about \$40 billion in estimated insurance payments, and